



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
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NAVSTA NEWPORT
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November 16, 2009

Winoma Johnson, P.E.
NAVFAC MIDLANT (Code OPNEEV)
Environmental Restoration
Building Z-144, Room 109
9742 Maryland Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23511-3095

Re: Draft Final Five Year Review Report

Dear Ms. Johnson:

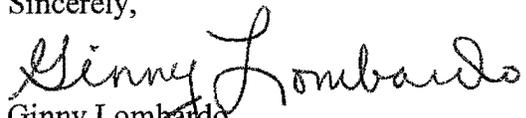
EPA has reviewed the "Draft Final Five-Year Review Report for Naval Station Newport, Newport, RI," dated October 2009. The Draft FYR was issued in April 2009 and EPA issued comments on the Draft on July 9, 2009. Navy issued responses to these comments on August 25, 2009. EPA issued a follow-up letter on the Navy's responses on September 21, 2009 and Navy issued final responses to these comments on October 12, 2009. EPA evaluated the Draft Final FYR Report for compliance with the EPA "Comprehensive Five-Year Review Guidance," dated June 2001, and to ensure that the Navy's August 21, 2009 and October 12, 2009 responses to EPA's comments were adequately incorporated.

Attached are EPA's comments on the Draft Final FYR. The first set of comments refers to the original comment from EPA's July 9, 2009 letter. For these comments, EPA feels that additional revisions need to be made to the FYR to adequately address the comments and incorporate the Navy's responses. The Specific Comments provided are requests for some additional revisions or clarifications to the FYR.

EPA does not request a separate response from the Navy to address these comments. Please address these comments in the Final FYR and submit the Final FYR for EPA approval.

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed comments, please contact me at (617) 918-1754 or at lombardo.ginny@epa.gov.

Sincerely,


Ginny Lombardo
Remedial Project Manager

Attachment

cc: Paul Kulpa, RIDEM, Providence, RI
Cornelia Mueller, NAVSTA, Newport, RI
David Peterson, USEPA, Boston, MA
Kymberlee Keckler, USEPA, Boston, MA
Robert Lim, USEPA, Boston, MA
Todd Finlayson, Gannet Fleming, Orono, ME
Steven Parker, Tetra Tech-NUS, Wilmington, MA

**EPA Comments on
Draft Final Five Year Review Report
Naval Station Newport, Newport, RI
October 2009**

COMMENT INCORPORATION:

Please ensure that the FYR Key Information, page vi, is revised to be consistent with the changes to Sections 2.6 and 2.7 discussed below.

Comment 7.b., 33.b. and 38.b.; Page 2-33, Section 2.6: The responses to these comments clarified that the shellfish ban is not required by the ROD, that the removal of contaminated sediment has eliminated the risk from the contaminants within the sediment, and that monitoring will continue to ensure that concentrations remain below PRGs. As such, the issue related to the potential lifting of the shellfish ban should be eliminated. Since the remedy does not rely on the presence of the shellfish ban, whether a ban is in effect or not has no bearing on the protectiveness of the remedy. The continued long-term monitoring of the OU1 and OU4 remedy is to be conducted to maintain the long-term protectiveness of the landfill cap and marine sediment remedy.

Comment 31; Page 2-28, Section 2.5.1: With respect to the modeling effort discussed in the 1st paragraph on this page, text needs to be added regarding the conclusion that the modeling is not needed.

Comment 38; Page 2-33, Section 2.6: Issues should be presented consistent with Exhibit 3-3, Section 4.4.1, and Exhibit 4-3 of the EPA FYR Guidance. In addition, an issue should be added to address the proposed revisions to the groundwater monitoring program that are discussed on page 2-20, at the end of Section 2.4.2.1. Therefore, there should be 2 issues listed in the table: the revisions to the groundwater long-term monitoring program and the revisions to the marine sediment long-term monitoring program. As noted above, the issue related to possible future lifting of the shellfish ban should be deleted.

Comment 39; Page 2-34, Section 2.7: The Draft Final FYR incorporates the recommendations and follow-up actions into a table format consistent with Exhibit 4-4 of the EPA FYR Guidance as requested. However, the 1st 3 recommendations are for continuing existing efforts and these should be deleted from the table. The recommendations and follow-up actions should only reflect recommendations required to address the Issues identified in Section 2.6. These recommendations, follow-up actions and milestone dates will be tracked by EPA in our Superfund database. The Navy should explain in the text that the revision to the LTMP will be prepared to address both issues listed in Section 2.6 and the recommendations table should list the LTM Work Plan revision as the only recommendation and follow-up action. Since this will be tracked in a database, the milestone date must be a specific date, not just a year.

Comment 53; Page 4-2 – 4-3, Section 4.2: The schedule information was added to the text. However, the other information requested to be added by this comment has not been addressed. Please add text to address the other parts of this comment.

Comment 75&76, Appendix F: While the MCL for benzo(a)pyrene has been corrected in most of the Appendix figures, Figure F-1.4-11 still lists it as 40 ppb, not 0.2 ppb. In addition, the MCL and the RI GA for benzo(a)pyrene is 0.2 ppb; however, only the MCL has been corrected in the figures. Please correct the RI GA value in all these figures.

Comment 77, Table F-2.1-1: The title for Table F-2.1-1 still refers to 1997 through 2001, although post-2001 data are also included in the table. Please correct the title.

SPECIFIC COMMENTS

1. Page 1-8, Section 1.2.2: Please verify the date for the Final Supplemental Eelgrass Mitigation Effort completion; the Draft FYR Report indicated November 2006; however, this Draft Final report indicates April 2006.
2. Page 1-9, Section 1.2.2: OFFTA: Please verify the date for the Completion of the Design for the Stone Revetment; listed as December 2009. EPA received a revised 100% Design dated August 10, 2009. Is the December 2009 date a typo or is another revision forthcoming?
3. Page 2-15 – 2-16, Section 2.3.3: It is EPA's understanding that the Source Control and Marine Sediment Management monitoring is conducted in accordance with the "Work Plan, Long Term Monitoring Program for McAllister Point Landfill," dated October 2005. In the Source Control sub-section, a 1997 O&M plan is referenced, but the 2005 LTM Work Plan is not discussed. Please add text regarding the Source Control LTM efforts under the October 2005 LTM Work Plan. In addition, in the Marine Sediment sub-section, the October 2005 plan is referred to, but it is not included as a reference in Appendix A. Please add this to the reference section. In addition, the text of page 2-16 provides a reference to a *Draft Final* Work Plan. In the references listed in Appendix A, the "TtNUS, 2005d" reference is for a December 2005 *Draft* Work Plan. Please clarify whether this is Draft or Draft Final and whether the date should be 2004 and make corrections.
4. Page 2-19, Section 2.4.2.1: In the second-to-last sentence on the page, please add the range of arsenic detected in the marine sediment reference area porewater to support the statement that the off-shore porewater samples are comparable to the reference area porewater samples for arsenic.